

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of customizing a speech based user interface to an application system by means of an input device, said application system comprising a speech user interface subsystem, a profile database, and application components, the method comprising the steps of:
 - accessing the speech user interface subsystem from an input device;
 - selecting a profile of user-defined functions from the profile database for customization of said profile by a user;
 - customizing the user-defined functions that are presented to the user for use within said profile;
 - specifying information to be presented to the user in a status summary associated with said profile in addition to said user-defined functions;
 - saving said profile in said profile database of said application system; and
 - providing said profile to said speech based user interface for presentation upon subsequent access by the user.
2. (canceled)
3. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein said step of customizing comprises customizing a command menu structure in a dual tone multi frequency driven user interface.
4. (original) A method according to claim 1 wherein said step of customizing comprises specifying a vocabulary structure in a speech recognition driven user interface.
5. (original) A method according to claim 1 wherein said step of customizing comprises creating an additional function that accesses elements external to said application system.

6. (currently amended) A method of providing a customized speech based user interface to an application system, said application system comprising a speech user interface subsystem, a profile database, and application components, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving an access request from a user;

retrieving a customized profile for the user from said database, said customized profile comprising user-defined functions made available to the user, said customized profile previously customized by said user;

retrieving user-defined data elements associated with said profile; and

presenting said user-defined functions and said user-defined data elements via said customized speech based user interface in accordance with said customized profile; ~~and~~

~~providing access to data elements presented in said user-defined functions.~~

7. (previously presented) A method according to claim 6 wherein said user-defined functions comprise a status summary played upon successful access to the system.

8. (previously presented) A method according to claim 6 wherein said user-defined functions comprise a command menu structure in a dual tone multi frequency driven user interface.

9. (previously presented) A method according to claim 6 wherein said user-defined functions comprise a vocabulary structure in a speech recognition driven user interface.

10. (previously presented) A method according to claim 6 wherein said user-defined functions comprise additional functions that access elements external to said application system.

11. (currently amended) A communication system comprising:
an input device;

an application system including;

a profile database comprising a plurality of profiles of user-defined functions of a speech-based user interface and user-defined data elements associated with said profiles for use with said application system;

customization means permitting customization of said user-defined functions
and permitting the customization of said user-defined data elements;

and

a speech user interface subsystem for presentation of one of said plurality of
profiles and said user-defined data elements; and

an audio output device.

12. (previously presented) A communication system according to claim 11 wherein said application system is a unified communications system.
13. (original) A communication system according to claim 11 wherein said application system is a unified messaging system.
14. (previously presented) A communication system according to claim 13 wherein said user defined functions comprise messaging system functions.
15. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said selection step is performed automatically.
16. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said customizing step comprises selecting functions from a menu.
17. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 16 wherein said selecting functions step comprises selecting the order selected functions are presented.
18. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 further including a step of creating an additional function providing ~~provides~~ information or entertainment services from elements external to said application system.
19. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 11 wherein said application system comprises an automobile control system, and said user defined functions comprise automobile system functions.

20. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 11 wherein said application system is located remote from a user and further comprising a network interface for communication between said application system and said user.

21. (new) A method according to claim 1 wherein a portion of said information is obtained by accessing at least one element external to said application system.

22. (new) A method according to claim 6 wherein at least one user-defined data element is obtained by accessing at least one element external to said application system.

23. (new) A method according to claim 11 wherein at least one user-defined data element is obtained by accessing at least one element external to said application system.